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The China Mail

ESTABLISHED 1845

THE
OVERLAND CHINA MAIL
(PUBLISHED EVERY
MAIL DAY.)
Contains the Week's News
of Hongkong and the
Far East.
Prices (including Postage) to any
part of the world \$12.
per annum.

No. 18,860.

號九十月五年七十壹百九千壹英

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, MAY 29 1917.

日丁次歲年六國民華中

PRICE, \$3.00 Per Month

THORNE'S OLD VAT No. 4. SCOTCH WHISKY.

SOLE AGENTS:
A. S. WATSON & Co. Ltd.
WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
HONGKONG.
TEL. 816.

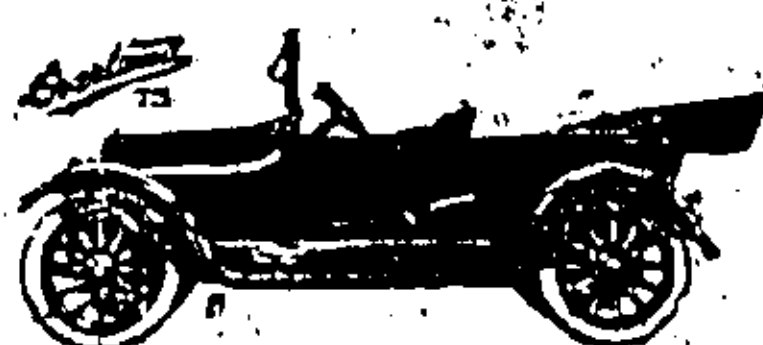
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STEAM OR MOTOR VESSELS
8,000 Tons, 4,000 Horse Power now Built.
Steel Building Work of every Description.
Castings, Forgings, Repairs and Supplies.
Prompt Attention and Shipment to Destination.
INJECTORS AND STEAM PUMPS.
W. S. BAILEY & Co., Ltd.
ENGINEERS and SHIPBUILDERS.
KOWLOON, HAY.

DRAGON MOTOR CAR CO.

SOLE DISTRIBUTORS FOR THE FAMOUS

RUBIN
AND
OVERLAND
MOTOR
CARS



GREY
HARLEY
DAVIDSON
MOTOR
CYCLES

TELEPHONE 432.
COME AND INSPECT
BEST CARS IN THE COLONY FOR HIRE.

BEWARE OF MOSQUITOES! MOSCATINE.

The infallible insect repeller.

PRICE 50 cents, \$1.00 and \$2.50 Per Bottle.
PREPARED ONLY BY
THE VICTORIA DISPENSARY.
32, Queen's Road Central.

THE HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING CO., LD.

Established 1883.

MANUFACTURERS OF

PURE Manila ROPE

STRAND	CABLE LAID	4 STRAND
1/2" to 15"	5" to 15"	3" to 10"
CIRCUMFERENCE	CIRCUMFERENCE	CIRCUMFERENCE

Oil Drilling Cables of any size up to 3,000 feet in length.

Please, samples and full particulars will be forwarded on application to
Shewan, Tomes & Co. General Managers.

Hongkong, April 11, 1912.



BY APPOINTMENT

WATSON'S PYERIS.

REGISTERED.

An exact reproduction of a well-known Spa at half
the price. Blends Perfectly with Spirits,
especially Whisky.

"A little learning is a dangerous thing.
Drink deep or touch not the Pyeris Spring.
Here shallow draughts intoxicate the Brain
And drinking deeply sobers us again."—Pope.

Pints 90 Cts. Per Doz.
Splits 60 " " "



A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

AERATED WATER MANUFACTURERS.
Telephone 436.

THE KWONG HIP LUNG CO., LTD.

(NOW RECONSTRUCTED)

ENGINEERS and SHIPBUILDERS, BOILER-MAKERS, BRASS and IRON
FOUNDERS. All work done in this establishment is guaranteed. We have
over thirty years' experience. We own two Slipways and can accommodate any craft
of 200 feet long.

Town Office, 48, CONSTITUTION ROAD CENTRAL, HONGKONG. Telephone No. 404.
Shipyard: Sham-Sui-Po, Kowloon, Hongkong. Telephone No. 2.
Estimates furnished on application.

Hongkong, April 1, 1912

WONG PING WA, Manager.

BUSINESS NOTICES

TAIKOO DOCKYARD.

BUILDERS OF SHIPS & ENGINES
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION
— THE TAIKOO DOCKYARD & ENGINEERING COMPANY —
— OF HONGKONG LTD. —
— TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "TAIKOO DOCKYARD" —
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GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LD. PORTLAND CEMENT

In Casks of 375 lbs. net.

In Bags of 250 lbs. net.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.

GENERAL MANAGERS

THE HONGKONG HOTEL AND GRILL ROOM

J. H. TAGGART,
MANAGER.

PEAK HOTEL.

ADMIRABLY SITUATED AT VICTORIA GAP.

Adjoining the Tramway Terminus, 1,400 feet above Sea Level.

A FIRST-CLASS FAMILY RESIDENTIAL AND TOURISTS HOTEL.

Telephones in all rooms. First-class Cuisine, Lounge, Smoking and Ladies
rooms, Roof Garden.

Terms:—From \$3 per day mex.

Telegraph add: "Peacetal",
P. O. PEUSTER,
Manager.

TO THOSE GOING HOME

Keep in touch with local happenings
by subscribing to

"THE OVERLAND CHINA MAIL"

All the News of Hongkong and the Far East.

ORDER BEFORE YOU LEAVE, SO THAT YOU MAY RECEIVE
IT WHILE AT HOME.

Price \$12 PER ANNUM, INCLUDING POSTAGE.

CAN BE MAILED TO ANY ADDRESS FROM THE

"CHINA MAIL" OFFICE

THE WAR.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

THE WESTERN FRONT.

MINOR OPERATIONS ON BRITISH
FRONT.

London, May 28.
Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig
reports:—

We repulsed raiders to the north-
west of Cherisy and to the south of
Fons, inflicting casualties and cap-
turing some prisoners.

We successfully carried out a raid
to the north of Armentieres, in the
neighbourhood of Wytschaete. We
reached the German support line and
took about thirty prisoners.

THE AIR RAID.

WHERE THE DAMAGE WAS
DONE.

London, May 28.
Viscount French announces that
the chief damage done by the air-
raid on Friday, was sustained by
Egglestone.

THE FRENCH FRONT.

London, May 28.

A French communiqué reports:—
Three more attacks on Cabuqui and
Teton in Champagne were completely
repulsed.

The enemy artillery was fairly lively
in the regions of Hill 304, and Mor-
thomme on the left bank of the Meuse.
A French detachment penetrated the
enemy's second line, in the region of
Uffholtz, in Alsace, and found many
German dead. Prisoners were also
brought back.

French air squadrons dropped six
tons of bombs on military establish-
ments and railway lines, especially in
Champagne, in the region of Thionville.
We brought down nine enemy aircraft,
two others were forced down in our
lines and five in the enemy's lines.

THE TAKING OF THE CALIFORNIA PLATEAU.

London, May 27.

Reuter's Special Correspondent at
French Headquarters gives a graphic
description of the position on California
Plateau on the naked top of which the
French held out for three weeks in
hurriedly improvised trenches. The
men often had only one meal a day.
The appearance of a single head above
the trenches was the signal for a
tempest of shells. The importance of
the Plateau lies in the fact that it marks
the eastern extremity of the great crest
overlooking, to the south, the valley of
the Aisne and to the north, the valley
of the Ailette.

TROUBLE IN POLAND.

AMSTERDAM, May 27.

The German papers admit that things
are not running smoothly in Poland
where the different bodies created by
the Germans are at loggerheads, parti-
cularly regarding the Regency.

A NEW DEMAND BY COTTON OPERATIVES.

London, May 27.

At a meeting of all the representa-
tives of the cotton spinners in the
northern counties, in connection with
the demands for payment for cleaning
the machinery as an addition to wages,
which at present cover this duty, it was
decided to ask the employers to confer
with the representatives of the workers
in connection with this matter.

A RUSSIAN AMBASSADORIAL CHANGE.

PETERSBURG, May 27.

The report that M. Lavinsky has been
appointed as Ambassador to London is
a misapprehension. There is no ques-
tion of his appointment there, although
he will be replaced at Paris.

THE ITALIAN FRONT.

CONTINUED PROGRESS.

London, May 28.

An Italian official message, trans-
mitted by wireless, reports:—

We strengthened our positions on
the "Julian" front, and captured
strongly fortified trenches to the east
and south-east of Jamiano. We
crossed the Timavo river and occu-
pied San Giovanni, to the north-west
of Duigo. We captured nine 8-inch
guns.

We repulsed two violent counter-
attacks on the "Vidice" sector, and on
the heights to the east of Gorizia.
Strong parties of infantry penetrated
a point on our line to the south-
ward of Gradina, but we drove them
out, taking 150 prisoners.

WORK OF BRITISH MONITORS IN THE GULF OF TRIESTE.

London, May 27.

Special correspondents relate the
performances of British monitors in the
Gulf of Trieste when bombarding the
Austrian rear. The first shot was fired
at dawn and landed on the railway at
Prosecco, just north of Trieste. The
second struck a train which vanished in
a ghastly ruin. The monitors smashed
the aeroplane sheds and flattened the
station at Prosecco, destroyed a viaduct
and produced a great fire at Contevello.
Austrian hydroplanes viciously
attacked the monitors but were driven
off by the Italian aircraft.

"AWAY WITH BELGIUM."

GERMAN APPEAL TO THE
FLEMINGS.

AMSTERDAM, May 28.

Krupp's organ, the *Rheinisch-
Westfälische Zeitung*, unblushingly
declares that Brussels henceforth
will be a Low German bulwark.
The burning of Louvain, after all,
was a small sacrifice compared with
the good which the Flemings have
reaped from it. Millions of German
and Flemish throats must cry
"Away with Belgium," which has
ceased to exist. The Flemings
should not forget that hundreds of
thousands of Germans died to secure
their liberty.

AMERICA'S ACHIEVE- MENTS.

100,000 AMERICANS WILL SHORTLY
BE IN FRANCE.

London, May 28.

The Press Bureau, in summarizing
America's achievements since she enter-
ed the war, states that including the
Americans who are already serving with
the French and British armies, there
will shortly be a total of 100,000
Americans in France. Arrangements
have been made for the construction of
3,500 war aeroplanes and the training
of 6,000 aviators, this year.

LANCASHIRE COTTON DISPUTE SETTLED.

London, May 28.

The Lancashire cotton dispute has
been settled; the weavers accepting the
employers' offer of a ten per cent.
advance in wages, commencing from
the first pay day in July.

RE-ORGANISATION AT THE ADMIRALTY.

London, May 27.

The appointment of a number of
experts is announced in connection with
Sir Eric Geddes' department at the
Admiralty, including General Collard,
who is to control the construction and
purchase of merchant vessels and
transport etc.; Sir Vincent Raven, who
will be responsible for the manufacture
and purchase of ordnance; and Admiral
Laurence Power, who will take over the
general management of the dockyards.

(Continued on Page 5.)



Hughes & Hough

AUCTIONEERS TO THE GOVERNMENT.

General Auctioneers
Share, Coal and General Produce
Brokers and Commission
Agents.

PROPRIETORS
"Te-Kwa-Wan" Coal Storage.

Coles and

Bentley's

A. S. C. 4th & 5th Editions.

A. 1 Telegraphic Code.

Telegraphic Address

MEXICO HONGKONG.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (for account of the concerned), on

WEDNESDAY,

the 30th May, 1917, at 2.30 p.m.,

at No. 10, Argus Street, HONGKONG.

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c.,
therein contained.

Double and Single Beds, Dressing
Tables, Bed Linen, Marble-top Wash
stands, Sofas and Chairs, Rattan Ware,
Chairs and Lounges, Toilet Crockery,
Clothes Hangers, Towel Racks, Paravans,
Brass Fenders and Stools, Shanghai
Baths.

(Full Particulars from Catalogue).

Terms:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,

Auctioneers.

Hongkong, May 29, 1917. 1847

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (for account of the concerned), on

FRIDAY,

the 1st June, 1917, commencing at
2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 4,
Des Voeux Road, Corner
of Ice House Street,—
HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c.,

Comprising:—
Teak Twin Bedsteads, Sideboards, Din-
ner Wagon, etc., Extension Dining Tables
and Chairs, Chesterfield Sofa, Arm-chairs,
&c., Wardrobes and Toilet Tables, Coat
&c., Miscellaneous Furniture, Pictures,
&c., Roll-top Desks, Blackwood Ware,
including Cabinets, Wardrobes, Stands,
&c., Brass Fenders and Fire Brackets,
a few lots of Porcelain and China, &c.,
Pantry and Kitchen Utensils, Electric
Lamps, Fans, Enamelled Baths, Carpets
and Rugs.

(Full Particulars from Catalogue).

Terms:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,

Auctioneers.

Hongkong, May 24, 1917. 1843

PUBLIC AUCTION.

BY direction of the Government of
Hongkong Messrs. HUGHES & HOUGH
have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, on

MONDAY,

the 13th day of August, 1917 at 3 P.M.
at their Sales Room, Ice House Street,
Victoria, Hongkong.

The Following VALUABLE LEASE-
HOLD PROPERTY situate at Victoria
Hongkong Viz:—

ALL THOSE pieces or parcels of
ground situate at Victoria aforesaid and
known and registered in the Land Office
as SECTION A OF MARINE LOT
NO. 101 and SECTION "B" OF
MARINE LOT NO. 101 together with the
messuages erections and buildings
thereon known as No. 7 Queen's Road
Central, Victoria aforesaid. Term 999
years created by a Crown Lease dated
the 8th day of April 1868.

Area in respect of Section "A" of
Marine Lot No. 101—8445 sq. ft.
Proportion of Annual Crown Rent
\$84.45.
Area in respect of Section "B" of
Marine Lot No. 101—875 sq. ft.
Proportion of Annual Crown Rent \$8.75.
For further particulars and conditions
of sale apply to—

JOHNSON, STOKES & MASTER,

Principals Buildings,

Ice House Street, Hongkong.

Solicitors for the Liquidator of

THE DEUTSCH-ASIAATISCH BANK

or to

Messrs. HUGHES & HOUGH,

The Auctioneers.

Hongkong, May 9, 1917. 1777

TERMS VERY MODERATE

Consolidation free.

STRENGTH IS WHAT YOU NEED

If you are tired, weak, run-down, and
lack ambition or nerve force, you are
running the risk of having a serious
breakdown if you fail to secure proper
treatment at once.

For those who are suffering from loss
of strength or nerve troubles there is
nothing that can equal Sargol for revital-
izing the nerve cells and bringing
strength and energy to every part of the
body. Sargol has increased the strength
of delicate, run-down, nervous people
more than 300 per cent. in many
instances. It does not matter whether
you have lost your strength and nerve
power from over-work, illness, or from
business worries, Sargol will bring back
your old-time strength and energy if
you give it a fair trial. It strengthens
the system and tones it up as no other
preparation can.

Sargol is a doctor's prescription, and
not a patent medicine. It is so carefully
prepared that even the weakest stomach
will quickly assimilate its strength and
nerve-restoring properties. That is why
it is prescribed so freely by physicians
for those whose strength is below
normal. If you are wondering if Sargol
would actually benefit you, why not do
the one thing which can convince you—
give Sargol a trial! And with your
nerve, leaving you for help, and your
friends worrying about your condition,
why not do this now?

Sargol is sold and recommended in
England by such high-class firms as
Roths, Cash, Chemists, Harrods, Sel-
ler's, Taylor's, Druggists, L. & C.,
Barnard, and J. W. & Co., Ltd.

Sargol is sold here in Hongkong by
such well-known chemists as A. S.
Watson & Co., Ltd., The Victoria
Dispensary, The Pharmacy, Queen's
Dispensary, The Edward Dispensary,
and by other leading dealers every-
where.

AUCTION.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instruc-
tions from the Liquidators of Messrs.
JAMES & CO. in pursuance of an order
of the Hongkong Government to sell by
Public Auction at 12 o'clock (Noon) on

TUESDAY,

the 31st day of July, 1917.

at his Sales Rooms,

DRENNELL STREET,

THE VALUABLE LEASEHOLD
PROPERTY situate at The Peak,
Hongkong, and being Rural Building
Lot No. 13.

IN ONE LOT

The property consists of:—
The piece or parcel of ground and
premises known as "Lysbott," 104 The
Peak, situate near Mount Gough in the
Colony of Hongkong with an area of
12,032 square feet and registered in the
Land Office as Rural Building Lot No. 13.

The lot is held for the unexpired
residue of a term of 75 years created
therein by an indenture of Crown Lease
dated the 23rd day of April 1866.

The Annual Crown Rent is \$85.00.
For further particulars and conditions
of sale apply to Messrs. Wilkinson &
Co., Solicitors for the Liquidators, or
to the undersigned.

GEO. P. LAMBERT,

Auctioneer.

Hongkong, April 30, 1917. 1748

KING EDWARD HOTEL

Central Location

ALL Electric Trams Pass Entrance,
Electric Lifts, Fans and Lighting,
European Baths and Sanitary Fittings,
Hot and Cold Water System throughout.

Best of Food and Service.

TELEPHONE 373

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:

"VICTORIA"

J. WITCHELL,

Manager.

FRENCH LESSONS

G. MOUSSON.

15, Morrison Hill Road.

HIMROD'S

Gives Instant Relief
No matter what your respiratory
organs may be suffering from—whether
ASTHMA, INFLUENZA,
NASAL CATARRH, OR
ORDINARY COUGH.
—you will find in this famous remedy
a restorative power that is simply
FAMOUS FOR
CURE FOR ASTHMA

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY.

THERAPION NO. 1
CURE FOR BLOOD POISON, RASH, ETC.
THERAPION NO. 2
CURE FOR GOUT, RHEUMATISM, ETC.
THERAPION NO. 3
CURE FOR ALL SKIN DISEASES, ETC.
A CURE
FOR ALL SKIN DISEASES, ETC.
A CURE
FOR ALL SKIN DISEASES, ETC.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE BOXING BOUTS—CHALLENGE TO "OBSERVER."

(To the Editor of the "CHINA MAIL.")

Sir,—In reply to the letter of
"Observer" in your issue of last week,
the points of the Smith-Simes fight
were independently checked and agreed
upon, in favour of Smith, by my co-
referee and myself; also, Simes himself
told me he was glad it was refereeing the
second fight between him and Smith as
my first decision was a just one.
I cannot agree with "Observer" that
serious breaches of the Rules occurred
in any of the contests, no faults were
claimed by either principals or seconds,
and neither does the Rule distinctly say,
as stated by "Observer," that holding
an opponent merits disqualification. The
Rule says that "The Referee may dis-
qualify after a caution," and in my
opinion, no holding in any of these
contests was sufficiently serious to merit
more than a caution.

"Observer" says "In the Ahearn-Royal
bout Royal forced Ahearn through the
ropes, after falling through the ropes."
Ahearn got to his feet and endeav-
oured to enter the ring. Royal was on
the other side of the ropes menacing
Ahearn's entry, the fact that Ahearn
was on his feet quite justified Royals
action. Had Ahearn crawled through
the ropes upon his hands and knees then
Royal would have been bound to step
back and let him enter. Immediately
"Ahearn fell through the ropes the count
should have started and continued
until Ahearn either got into the arena
again or was counted out."

Now, Rule 1 of the Queensberry Rules,
under which this fight took place, reads
"To be a fair stand up boxing match in
a 21 foot ring."
"Observer" says that Ahearn being on
his feet outside the ropes quite justified
Royal preventing Ahearn's entry but this
is opposed to the Rule which provides
that both men must be in the ring.
Royals, therefore, under the Rule, could
not touch Ahearn until Ahearn was in
the ring, not could Royal prevent
Ahearn entering the ring.

"Observer" is also incorrect in saying
that Royal must step back. Under the
Rules Royal may stay anywhere in the
ring until Ahearn has entered the ring,
and if Ahearn after having so entered
the ring, is on his hands and knees and is
not out of distance then only must Royal
step back.

There was no occasion to count, as
Ahearn was not down, he was outside the
ropes only by accident and was ready
and willing to enter the ring. Royal's
action in the heat of the fight was quite
natural, and Royal at once let Ahearn
enter the ring on being asked to do so.

The referee has absolute power to
interpret the Rules and to decide any
question not covered by the Rules, and
I think that a Referee who disqualified
any boxer in these contests would be
quite unfit for his position. An eminent
Referee on being asked for advice upon
the subject said: "Have a good knowledge
of the rules and use common sense."
Common sense tells us when boxers are
doing their honest best to put up clean,
good fights, as did all these men.

"Observer" must know that Americans
are used to fight with one hand free, and
not with both hands free as in these
bouts; he must know that they came
with little training, that many of the
boxers were recruited at short notice and
some with little experience; they put up
these bouts, the best and fairest of box-
ing; and on behalf of the boxers I
emphatically disagree with "Observer."
All the boxers deserve great credit as do
Inspector Wilson and the officials, busy
men who gave their scanty leisure and
their monetary support to this show.

"Observer" has given a letter! "Ob-
server's" letter shows ignorance of the
Rules, and of the duties of a Referee,
and, as his letter appears to be directed
against me personally, I hereby chal-
lenge "Observer" to three two minute
rounds at the next bout which take
place; I have not time for further discus-
sion and just say to "Observer," whoever
he may be, "Don't talk, fight!"
I am, etc.,
W. S. BAILEY.

W. S. BAILEY.

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THE MAGISTRACY.

CUT OFF HIS WIFE'S HAIR TO KEEP HER

A Chinese silversmith, residing at
No. 30 Second Street, was charged
before Mr. J. R. Wood yesterday with
assaulting his wife and cutting off her
hair.

It was alleged by the complainant
that her husband had become jealous of
her, and after beating her with a piece
of fire wood, he cut off her hair with a
razor and drove her from the house.

The defendant's story was that his
wife had informed him that she no
longer cared to be his wife, as she want-
ed to marry a man who resided in
Lascar Row. The defendant then in-
formed his wife that if she wished to
leave him, she must permit him to cut
off her hair, and to this she agreed.
The defendant then admitted having
cut off his wife's hair, and in
reply to the magistrate's inquiry as
to his reason for cutting off her hair,
explained that he did not want to give
her up and believed that after her hair
was cut her lover would not marry her.
He denied, however, having either
beaten his wife or driven her from the
house and stated that as she had
continually run away from him, it had
frequently been necessary for him
to lock her in her abode.

His Worship (to the complainant):
Did you consent to have your hair cut
off?

The Complainant: Is any woman
in the world so great a fool as to want
her hair cut off?

"Look! I will show your Worship."
He then produced a photograph of his
wife, and quickly removing her head
scarf exposed her shortened hair.

His Worship then adjourned the

case until next Wednesday morning,

fixing the defendant's bail at fifty

dollars.

INDIAN VAGRANTS.

Two Indians named Easer Sing and
Kupah Sing were brought before Mr.
J. R. Wood yesterday on the charge of
vagrancy.

Inspector Sim informed the magistrate
that the defendants were destitute and
had been found sleeping in the Mohan-
medan Cemetery after having been
ejected from the Sikh Temple.

The first defendant stated that he had
resided in Hongkong for the past ten
years and was formerly employed by
the Peak Tramway Company. For the
past ten months, however, he had been
unemployed.

The second defendant said that he
arrived in the Colony from Tientsin
about two months ago and being
unable to secure employment, had
dissipated his savings.

His Worship committed both de-
fendants to the house of detention.

ARMY AGE LIMIT.

A recruiting officer, expressing his
personal opinion, said that the age limit
for the army will be raised to 45 or 50
before the summer comes. This possi-
bility was being considered at the end
of March, and it was regarded generally
as a foregone conclusion that all men
up to at least 45 will be required for
military service at home shortly.

In this connection the following sen-
tences from Mr. Bonar Law's speech on
the new Military Service Bill are
significant:—

I do not pretend that the Bill will
meet all the needs of the situation.
In We cannot make definite plans
until we know the extent to which the
National Service scheme will enable us
to get men for the army. But in the
meantime this step is necessary.
If the limit becomes 45 or 50 the men
referred to would be raised entirely
for home service or labour duties in
France. Very few of them would be fit
for general service. It is no secret that
only a comparatively small percentage
of the men between 35 and 40 now in the
army are capable of doing service in
the fighting line. But the men of 40 to
50 would make useful recruits for the
volunteers, practically every battalion
of which is in urgent need of them, and
in due course they would become soldiers
sufficiently capable of garrisoning the
country so that the younger men could
be sent abroad at the critical moment.

GERMAN FINANCE.

ALLIED CURRENCY PREFERRED.

The City Editor of "The Times" writes
that the German consciousness of coming
financial ruin is evidenced in a remark-
able manner by a decree of the Ger-
man Government of Poland and
substituting the new Polish mark for the
rouble. The Polish mark will be the
equivalent of the German mark, exchange
for the rouble being fixed at 2 1/2 marks.
The German authorities are thus buying
roubles at the rate of thirty six marks
per pound sterling, whereas the current
rate is thirty marks. They thus exhibit
their consciousness that worse times are
approaching when German coin will not
be negotiable in foreign markets, and
that the Allied currencies are better
worth holding. In so doing they are
repeating their action in Belgium, where
the Germans took possession of all the
available Belgian currency.

JAPAN'S SHIPPING INDUSTRY.

AN OPTIMISTIC OUTLOOK.

BARON DEN'S SPEECH IN KOBE.

The following is given by the "Japan
Chronicle" as the gist of the address
delivered by Baron Den Minister for
Communications, at a reception held in
his honour at the Oriental Hotel, Kobe,
by people interested in the shipping
industry:—

GROWTH OF SHIPPING TRADE.

Prior to the outbreak of hostilities
in Europe Japan's maritime trade stood
seventh in the world's list, but since the
beginning of the war it has made re-
markable progress. The mercantile fleet
of Great Britain, on the other hand,
seems to be suffering a great blow owing
to the relentless submarine warfare waged
by Germany. In the earlier stages of the
war the shipowners of Norway and the
United States, in common with their
Japanese confederates, shared large profits
by their ships, which travelled to all parts
of the world. At present, however,
Norwegian shipowners do not seem to be
reaping such large profits as they did at
first. The shipping trade in the United
States, on the other hand, has been mak-
ing phenomenal progress, and American
shipowners are evidently aiming at cap-
turing the maritime trade of the Pacific
as well as the Atlantic. This is a matter
that deserves the serious attention of the
Japanese, and they must be urged to do
their best for the development of Japan's
shipping trade. It may be remarked, in
passing, that the number of Japanese
steamers engaged in trade in
European waters before the war was not
more than 184, a dozen, but at present the
number of such Japanese ships is put at
about 50.

SHIPBUILDING IN JAPAN.

According to the latest returns, the
amount of specie that has flowed into
Japan is estimated at more than 1,000
million yen. In other words, Japan's
export trade has been in a very pros-
perous condition. In these circumstances
it is not surprising that the insufficiency
of freight accommodation should be more
and more felt, despite the building of
new ships being pushed on with all
possible speed. The only remedial
measures available in the circumstances
are the encouragement of shipbuilding
and the raising of freight rates. The
shipbuilding capacity of Japan has now
advanced to 300,000 tons, though it was
only 50,000 tons a few years ago. It is
thought, however, that any further
development of the industry will not be
possible for the present unless Japan is
enabled to obtain a less restricted supply
of shipbuilding materials.

EXPORT OF JAPANESE SHIPS.

There has been much discussion as to
the advisability or otherwise of per-
mitting the sale of steamers to foreign
countries. In my opinion, there is no
need for enacting a law for the purpose
of preventing the export of ships. If
Japan aspires to become a prominent
country in maritime trade, there is no
occasion for such a conservative policy as
the prohibition of the sale of ships to
foreign countries. Due care should,
however, be exercised not to part with
valuable ships at low prices, lest the
demand for hold space be accentuated.

POST-CHIEF'S PROSPECTS.

With regard to the prospects of the
shipping industry after the war, Marquis
Okuma expressed a pessimistic view at
a meeting of the Economic Investigation
Council last year. I am, however, of
opinion that there is no occasion for such
pessimism. In America fears seem to be
entertained as to the dumping of goods
by Germany on the restoration of peace,
and a consequent panic on the world's
markets. Such a contingency, however,
appears doubtful considering the great
scarcity of materials for manufacturing
that is felt in Germany. It is true that
Germany has declared her intention to
carry out the building of ships aggregating
1,500,000 tons, but this is nothing more
than a bluff, inasmuch as Germany is
destitute of materials, especially copper.
If Japan succeeds in extending her com-
merce, and her export trade is developed,
the demand for hold space will be main-
tained and she will not suffer from a
plague of tonnage. For the encourage-
ment of the export trade, however, care
should be exercised to keep the prices of
commodities as low as possible, so as to
keep down the cost of production.

JAPAN'S SHIPBUILDING CAPACITY.

The Tokyo newspaper "Jiji" com-
menting on the shipping situation, says:—
In pre-war days the shipbuilding capacity
of this country was very limited, there
being only nine yards capable of turning
out steamers of over 1,000 tons. In these
circumstances, the average annual ship-
building capacity before the war was
between 100,000 and 120,000 tons. As the
result of the shortage of shipping caused
by the war, however, Japanese ship-
building has enjoyed great prosperity, and ship-
building circles have developed cor-
responding activity. Many shipbuilding
yards have extended their plant, and
seven additional yards have been enabled
to turn out steamers of over 1,000 tons.
There are at present 10 yards of the
above-mentioned capacity, and it is now
believed that this Japanese shipbuilding
yards combined can turn out shipping

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A CRITICISM OF ENGLISH MUSIC.

OLD SUPERSTITIONS.

Sir Thomas Beecham, in an address

recently to the Ancient Brotherhood,

Manchester, said: "English music before

the war and after," said that about forty

to forty-five years ago the collective con-

science of England decided that it would

like to have some serious music. It took

about a hundred years to get it. An edu-

cational fever ran through the country like

quicksilver, and everybody succumbed to

it without questioning its wisdom. The

belief was that if we knew something

about an artistic subject we should soon

produce artistic masterpieces. We had

not produced any, and the reason was not

far to seek. London was simply the old and

true number of people trained by institu-

tions published by the State, but we did

not see that we were putting the cart

before the horse, for we were not. These

hundreds of people were thrown upon a

very unsympathetic world to seek a

most precarious living. There were only

a certain number of orchestras supported

by private means, no opera houses, and

no institutions subsidised by the Govern-

ment into which the fine flower of these

institutions could enter. The attitude of

the State today towards music was to

train children, but to starve the grown-

ups.

The majority of our teaching institu-

tions of today were in a comparative

state of decline and not fulfilling any

useful purpose. Not a satisfactory artist

of any sort had passed through his hands

out of them for perhaps nine or ten years,

although thousands a year had been pro-

duced. There was something wrong,

which he imputed in a small measure to

the stupidity of the governing official

class, and in a much greater measure to

the lack of reflection and the stupidity

of the British public. The superstitions

of this country were an extraordinary

thing. Any gentleman with a blue or red

beard had turned up before the war play-

ing a fiddle upside down and said, "I am

the Prince of Landan." We should all

have gone to the Queen's Hall or the Free

Trade Hall to see him and should have

been enchanted with him. (Laughter.)

He knew that was so because he had

tried those tricks on the public himself.

(Renewed laughter.)

Since the war broke out we had had

an opportunity of reflecting over some

of our superstitions, and had managed to

shed or forget a few of them, and it was

during this period of forgetfulness that

we had a chance of striking out on new

lines and of really getting on the right

track. But the public must be prepared

to pay for it. Personally he thought that

as soon as the war was over we should

have a renaissance of musical activity.

He would be responsible for a good deal

of it himself. (Hear, hear.) What

Manchester needed was a proper theatre,

which, for a certain part of the year,

should be devoted either to its own com-

pany or the best companies from else-

where, and which for the rest of the year

should be given over to opera seasons—

one before and the other after the con-

cert season. (Hear, hear.)

Speaking next of the musical resources

of the country, Sir Thomas Beecham said

that as a result of the effort of the last

forty years we had managed to produce

half-a-dozen—and we had the material for

another half-dozen—of the finest

orchestras in the world. Germany had

no orchestras equal to the orchestras in

London and the Halle Orchestra in Man-

chester. There had existed in the English

schools for years a fine level of instru-

mental teaching, and in no school was

that more apparent than in the Man-

chester institution over which his friend

Dr. Brodsky presided. (Cheers.)

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